

Become Acquainted With the Park

Summer 2001

Information

Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth

Daily, year-round, 9 AM–5 PM through May 25; 8 AM–7 PM thereafter. Information, bookstore, and exhibits on wildlife and history. Films on the national park idea and artist Thomas Moran are shown throughout the day. Call 307-344-2263.

Canyon Visitor Center

Daily beginning May 26, 8 AM–7 PM. Information, bison exhibit, and bookstore. Call 307-242-2550.

Fishing Bridge Visitor Center

Daily beginning May 26, 8 AM–7 PM. Information,

bookstore, and exhibits on the park's birds and other wildlife. Call 307-242-2450.

Grant Visitor Center

Daily beginning May 26, 8 AM–7 PM. Information, bookstore, exhibits, video on the role of fire in Yellowstone. Call 307-242-2650.

Madison Information Station

Daily beginning May 26, 8 AM–7 PM; bookstore 9 AM–5 PM. Call 307-344-2821.

Museum of the National Park Ranger, Norris

Daily beginning May 26, 9 AM–6 PM. Exhibits at

historic soldier station trace development of the park ranger profession; video shown. Chat with former National Park Service employees who volunteer at the museum.

Norris Geyser Basin Museum

Daily beginning May 26, 10 AM–5 PM; bookstore 9 AM–5 PM. Information and exhibits on the thermal features of Yellowstone. Call 307-344-2812.

Old Faithful Visitor Center

Daily 9 AM–5 PM through MAY 25; 8 AM–7 PM thereafter, plus information window open until 8 PM.

Information, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. A new film on Yellowstone's rare and unique geothermal features will be shown this summer. Call 307-545-2750.

West Thumb Information Station

Daily beginning May 26, 9 AM–5 PM. Information and bookstore.

West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, Public Lands Desk

Daily 8 AM–4 PM through May 27; 8 AM–8 PM thereafter. Information and bookstore. Call 406-646-4403.

Self-Guiding Trails

Slow down and stretch your legs on these self-guiding trails. At each location, you can purchase a trail guide with a map, photos, and information.

Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone

Scan the color-rich canyon and the Upper and Lower Falls from overlooks along the rims, which you can reach by car or foot. See for yourself why viewpoints are named Inspiration, Grandview, and Artist Point.

Fort Yellowstone

Enjoy a walking tour around this historic site at Mammoth Hot Springs. Most of the buildings were constructed during the time that the U.S. Army managed the park (1886–1918). They are now used by the National Park Service as its headquarters.

Fountain Paint Pot

Ever-changing mudpots; constant geysers; hissing fumaroles; and colorful, boiling hot springs await you on this trail. Located 8 miles (12.9 km) north of Old Faithful on the road to Madison Junction. (Firehole Lake Drive opens May 26.)

Mammoth Hot Springs

Visitors marvel at the surreal appearance of these travertine terraces. As an early visitor described them: "The hot springs fall over a lofty hill of snowy whiteness, resembling cascades." Trails wind through the area, and you can also drive through the Upper Terraces.

Mud Volcano Area

Discover turbulent and explosive mudpots, including Mud Volcano and Dragon's Mouth. View—and smell—Sulphur Caldron. Located on the road between Lake and Canyon, 6 miles (9.6 km) north of Fishing Bridge Junction.

Norris Geyser Basin

Explore the hottest, most dynamic geyser basin in the park. Porcelain Basin features hundreds of thermal features in an open area; Back Basin trail winds through more forested terrain past a number of springs and geysers. Steamboat, the world's tallest geyser, erupted in May 2000—its first eruption since October 1991.

Upper Geyser Basin

The world's largest concentration of geysers is located here, including Old Faithful. View that famous feature, then walk the trails that wind past hundreds of geysers and hot springs. Names such as Beehive, Grotto, Castle, Riverside, and Morning Glory hint at the wonders you will see.

West Thumb Geyser Basin

The boiling springs in this basin, including the famous Fishing Cone, discharge their waters into chilly Yellowstone Lake. With mountains as a backdrop to the east, this is one of the prettiest self-guiding trails.

The Greening of Yellowstone

When Yellowstone National Park celebrated its 125th anniversary in 1997, its employees asked "What can we do to preserve and protect this national treasure for the next 125 years?" Highlights are listed here, along with corresponding actions you can take at home.

Greening Yellowstone

Transportation: The Park fleet runs on a variety of alternative fuels; one even uses 100% biodiesel. These fuels substantially reduce exhaust emissions. A ride-share program is available for employees living in neighboring communities. The Park also supports research on reducing snowmobile emissions and encourages the use of cleaner lube oils.

Plastic Lumber: Decaying wood boardwalks are being replaced with lumber made from recycled plastic, which lasts twice as long as wood.

Recycling: The Park recycles 400 tons of paper, aluminum, glass, steel, and cardboard each year, which saves thousands of dollars in landfill fees and expands collection and marketing opportunities with neighboring counties.

Cleaning: The Park eliminated cleaning products that could be harmful to employees or the environment and replaced them with equally effective, environment-friendly products.

Energy Conservation: The Park has retrofitted many buildings to be more energy efficient. Photovoltaics, or cells converting sunlight into electricity, have been installed at some remote locations.

Greening Your Own Home

Bike, walk and car pool whenever possible. Keep your automobile properly tuned to reduce air pollution. Purchase ethanol-blended fuels. (Now available in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks!)

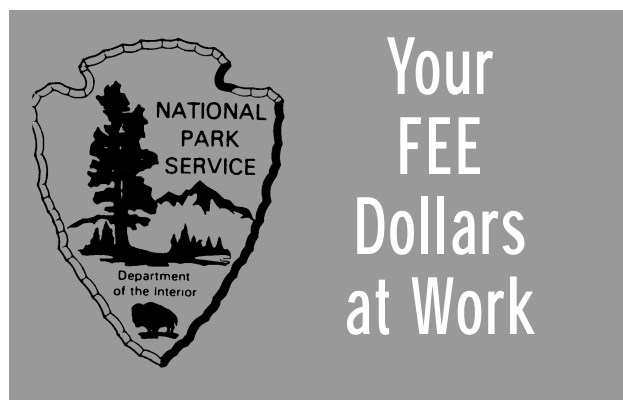
Recycle plastics and encourage your community to develop a plastics recovery program. Buy plastic lumber for your deck project.

Encourage your community, businesses, and schools to develop other recycling programs; buy recycled products and products that you can recycle; buy large quantities to reduce package waste.

Read and understand labels. Purchase only products that protect human health and are safe for the environment.

List home energy-savers (such as turning down thermostat) and put these into action.

Brought to you by Montana State University Pollution Prevention Information Center, peakstoprairies.org



In 1996, Congress authorized a pilot fee program to demonstrate the feasibility of spreading some of the costs of managing public lands among those who use them. Yellowstone and Grand Teton are two of 100 National Park Service units that were selected to participate in the new fee program. The additional funds generated by the fee increase are being used for projects that the parks have been unable to fund in the past through yearly Congressional allocations.

Entrance and campground fees are dedicated to projects that increase the quality of the visitor experience and enhance the protection of park resources. Examples of projects underway include major renovation of Canyon Visitor Center including the development of new geology exhibits, replacing outdated audiovisual equipment at Old Faithful Visitor Center, campground and amphitheater upgrades, and natural and cultural resource studies.

Accessibility Guide Available



A free *Visitors Guide to Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park* is available at all entrance stations and visitor centers in the park. This guide describes which facilities have been judged to be negotiable for wheelchair users. Additional facilities are being made accessible as quickly as possible within funding limitations.

For more information, write to:

Park Accessibility Coordinator
P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190;
TDD only (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)
307-344-2386